

Responses from APRACA Members	Issues, challenges and responses by APRACA members to COVID-19 Pandemic			
	1. What is the impact of COVID-19 that you are expecting on the agricultural sector in your country (macro level)	2. How the supply of finance to agriculture and allied sectors are being impacted due to COVID-19 (both Macro and micro level)	3. What are the responses by your organization to reach out to your customers engaged in agriculture and allied business?	4. What are the policy measures taken by the national government and central banks to ease the impact of COVID-19 on agricultural finance?
CHINA				
Huainantongshang Rural Commercial Bank (HTRCB), China	All the provinces were not impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and Anhui province is not much affected due to this disease. However, keeping in view the spread of infections in nearby provinces, the provincial government took many measures including movement restrictions which impacted agricultural and food sector.	<p>a) As a rural commercial bank and agriculture is one of the major activities in Anhui province, HTRCB continued its financing to agriculture and rural commercial activities even at a greater pace.</p> <p>b) The bank restructured the loans in terms of reduced rates of interest and repayment period has been enhanced. The bank also extended the agricultural loans to the value chain actors with special reference to agricultural processors.</p>	<p>a) HTRCB used the mobile platform to reach out to the rural and agricultural customers. The app which was developed during 2017 and 2018 and were being used for mobilizing deposits were reactivated to offer the loan products.</p> <p>b) The other feature added is provision of direct payment to the input suppliers (seeds, fertilizers, farm machines, pig and poultry feeds) through mobile. Insurance and other loan products were also sold through digital platform.</p>	<p>a) The National government has taken quick actions to help agriculture and SMEs with financial support, especially to rural areas. areas.</p> <p>b) The peoples Bank of China and provincial government are guiding financial institutions to provide finance to SMEs and farmers with low interest rate and longer repayment period.</p>